**5/11/08**

**HITLER: WHICH RELIGION?**

Hitler was raised by [Roman Catholic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Catholic_Church) parents, but after he left home, he never attended [Mass](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mass_%28liturgy%29) or received the [sacraments](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sacraments_of_the_Catholic_Church),[[79]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hitler#cite_note-78) Hitler often praised [Christian](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christianity) heritage, German Christian culture, and professed a belief in [Jesus Christ](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jesus_Christ).[[80]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hitler#cite_note-79) In his speeches and publications Hitler even spoke of Christianity as a central motivation for his [antisemitism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antisemitism), stating that "As a Christian I have no duty to allow myself to be cheated, but I have the duty to be a fighter for truth and justice".[[81]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hitler#cite_note-80)[[82]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hitler#cite_note-81) His private statements, as reported by his intimates, are more mixed, showing Hitler as a religious man but critical of traditional Christianity.[[83]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hitler#cite_note-bull389-82) However, in contrast to other Nazi leaders, Hitler did not adhere to [esoteric](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Esoteric) ideas, [occultism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Occultism), or [neo-paganism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neo-paganism),[[83]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hitler#cite_note-bull389-82) and ridiculed such beliefs in *Mein Kampf*.[[84]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hitler#cite_note-83) Rather, Hitler advocated a "[Positive Christianity](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Positive_Christianity)",[[85]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hitler#cite_note-84) a belief system purged from what he objected to in traditional Christianity, and which reinvented [Jesus](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jesus) as a fighter against the Jews.

Hitler believed in [Arthur de Gobineau](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthur_de_Gobineau)'s ideas of struggle for survival between the different races, among which the "Aryan race" — guided by "Providence" — was supposed to be the torchbearers of civilization. In Hitler's conception Jews were enemies of all civilization.

Hitler, despite his native Catholicism, favored aspects of [Protestantism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Protestantism) if they were more amenable to his own objectives. At the same time, he adopted some elements of the Catholic Church's hierarchical organization, liturgy and phraseology in his politics.[[86]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hitler#cite_note-85)[[87]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hitler#cite_note-86)

Hitler expressed admiration for the [Muslim](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muslim) military tradition. According to one confidant, Hitler stated in private, "The Mohammedan religion too would have been much more compatible to us than Christianity. Why did it have to be Christianity with its meekness and flabbiness...".[[88]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hitler#cite_note-87)

**QUOTES FROM HITLER HIMSELF**

**1922 speech age 33**

 **"My feeling as a Christian points me to my Lord and Saviour as a fighter.......**

 **In boundless love as a Christian and as a man .........**

 **As a Christian I have no duty to allow myself to be cheated....**

 **For as a Christian I have also a duty to my own people”**

**Mein Kampf 1925 age 36**

 **"I sank down on my knees and thanked Heaven"**

 **“true christianity was jesus christ.”**

**"Hence today I believe that I am acting in accordance with the will of the**

 **Almighty Creator: by defending myself against the Jew, I am fighting for**

 **the work of the Lord."**

**1933 speech age 44**

 **"We were convinced that the people need and require this faith.**

 **We have therefore undertaken the fight against the atheistic movement,**

 **and that not merely with a few theoretical declarations:**

 **we have stamped it out"**

**1941 age 52**

 **Hitler told General Gerhard Engel "I shall remain a Catholic forever."**

**Hitler and the Catholic Church**

**1924 Many books were added to the 'index'. 'Mein Kampf' was NEVER added!**

**1930's Catholic church approves rearmament of Germany.**

**1933 Catholic church signs a concordant with Hitler.**

**1935 They remained silent over the boycott of Jewish businesses and the**

 **proclamation of the Nuremberg racial laws.**

 **They provided Hitler with genealogical records.**

**1940 They gave absolution to France’s Vichy regime.**

**1942 Failed to condemn extermination policy in private or in public.**

**1945 Cardinal Bertram ordered a requiem Mass in memory of Hitler.**

**After WW2**

**The Church helped war criminals escape to other countries and promoted**

**into its ranks Hitler's former followers.**

**Discovery of mass graves, gas chambers, and death camps evoked**

**not a word from the Church.**

**OTHER HITLERISMS**

**gott mit uns - deuteronomy 20:4 god go with you. stamped on soldier's belts.**

**ordered all school children to begin their day with a prayer to jesus.**

**THE SOURCE OF HITLER’S “ANTI-CHRISTIAN” STATEMENTS**

**TABLE TALK (problems with its reliability)**

1. **The reliability of the source (hearsay and editing by the anti-Catholic, Bormann)**

**2) The Table-Talk reflects thoughts that do not occur in Hitler's other private or public conversations.

3) Nowhere does Hitler denounce Jesus or his Christianity.

4) The Table-Talk does not concur with Hitler's actions for "positive" Christianity.**

**Nor can the Table-Talk be used to argue for an atheist Hitler:**

**“We don't want to educate anyone in atheism.” Table-Talk [p. 6]**

**“An uneducated man, on the other hand, runs the risk of going over to atheism (which is a return to the state of the animal)...” Table-Talk [p. 59]**